



Diving Deeper: A Gather Group discussion guide  
or personal devotional guide



## Walking Tall

**Introduction:** Hollywood may have a story about Chris Vaughn (the Rock) cleaning up a corrupt town, but that storyline has nothing on the Bible. The Israelites are under attack by the Philistines and there is one warrior who has intimidated the entire Israelite army—Goliath. He insulted, blasphemed the name of God, and challenged any of the Hebrew warriors to fight in a winner take all contest. The whole army was afraid to fight Goliath. There was one who was not afraid. . . his name was David. David, not yet 20 years old, took the challenge and showed the world what “walking tall” truly means.

**Text:** Read 1 Samuel 17

### Discussion:

1. Icebreaker: Has there ever been a time when someone or something intimidated you? How did you respond?
2. God had rejected Saul as king of Israel and he instructed Samuel to go to the house of Jesse and he would reveal who the next king would be. Samuel obeys the Lord and when he sees the oldest son, he notices his size and stature and things surely he is the one to be king. Read 1 Samuel 16:6-7. What does God look at when he sees people?
3. Have you ever been guilty of coming to conclusions about someone simply based on their appearance? Write/Discuss.
4. 1 Samuel 17 introduces the enemy of God—Goliath. It gives detailed descriptions of his appearance and his weapons. Why do you think the Bible gives us this information?
5. Goliath introduces a challenge to the Israelite army. They could choose one man to fight him and the winner would rule over the losing nation. Read 1 Samuel 17:11—How did the army of Israel react? When David heard Goliath, how did he respond?
6. The army of Israel and David saw the very same enemy, but they had two opposite reactions? What is the difference between how they viewed the same situation? In life, various people can be going through very similar problems and one will defeat the situation while the other will be defeated by the situation. What is the difference and how can you be the one to “Walk Tall” in faith?
7. When David’s older brother saw David, how did he treat his brother? Why do you think that Eliab was angry at David?
8. When David said that he would fight Goliath, how did Saul react?
9. Have you ever had someone say “You can’t . . .,” “You will never . . .,” “Your too . . .” Have you ever had someone that was jealous or angry with you for following Jesus? How do you react when people attack you or criticize you for your faith?
10. How does David respond to Saul and why is this significant?
11. How did Goliath respond when he saw David?
12. How did David respond to Goliath?
13. Why was David so confident that he would defeat Goliath?
14. David fought Goliath as a shepherd. Jesus defeated Satan as the “Good Shepherd.” Jesus is the mighty warrior who has defeated sin and death. He still fights our battles. How does knowing Jesus as your Good Shepherd help you to “Walk Tall?”

### Think About it:

How do you react to the Goliath’s in your life? David sets an example of what bold faith in the Lord looks like. He was confident that the Lord was with him and that he would give him the victory. He was a covenant child of God. The promise that God made to Abraham was fulfilled in Jesus. The child of God is a covenant child of God. The Lord is on our side and he fights our battles!

### Moving Forward:

Realize the power and strength of the Lord this week and be obedient to the Lord by “Walking Tall” in faith!